

# S.A.L.T. TIMES



December 2004

Sheriff Garry E. Lucas




## Santa says, "Ho Ho Hope" is on the way for hundreds of Clark County families this holiday season. And you can help!

**S**anta's Posse was created in 1997 to help Clark County families in need during the holidays and to provide a positive contact between law enforcement and families.

Sheriff's Office deputies, custody officers and support staff, rotary clubs, retirees, and many others helped collect and distribute food baskets, toiletry items and toys to 43 families that first year. Last year that number reached 300 families with approximately 700 children. This year, four Santa's and three Mrs. Santa's will be helping make deliveries to 350 families!

*Here's how you can be a part of this great community effort:*

- **Refer a family in need.** If you know of a family in need, have them call the Sheriff's Office at 397-2211 ext. 4896 to sign up.
- **Make a donation.** Bring unwrapped toys, toiletry items or non-perishable food to one of the locations listed below. Or purchase a great stocking stuffer! Green and white lanyards printed with "Clark County Sheriff" are available for \$5.00 each. Monetary donations can be made by mailing a check attn: Santa's Posse, P.O. Box 410, Vancouver, WA 98666 or at the following locations. *Your contributions are greatly appreciated!*
  - \*Sheriff's Office- 707 W. 13th St. Vancouver, WA 98660
  - \*West Precinct- 505 NW 179th St. Ridgefield, WA 98642
  - \*Central Precinct- 11608 NE 149th St. Brush Prairie, WA 98606
- **Spend a few hours wrapping gifts or delivering them.** See schedule for dates, times and location. 

So, come join us in helping to make this a brighter holiday season for families in need. It just might make your holiday a "ho ho ho" lot brighter, too!

### Santa's Posse Schedule

**December 13 and 14**  
**5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**  
Wrap gifts

**December 15 at 5:30 p.m.**  
Fill and wrap toiletry baskets

**December 18**  
**9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**  
Sort and label food baskets and gifts by zip code.

**December 19 at 9:00 a.m.**  
Delivery Day!

**Location:**  
Pepsi Building Warehouse  
Harney and West 11th  
Vancouver, WA 98660





## Holiday Safety Tips On Giving

**G**iving is a big part of the holiday season. Here are some safety tips and suggestions to help you enjoy the holidays.

### Giving to charities

With all of the opportunities available to contribute to charities, it is important to make wise choices. Be especially wary of door-to-door solicitations for charity. Criminals can pretend to be accepting donations for charity, when in fact *they* are the charity. Always ask for identification and find out how your donation will be used. If you are uncomfortable, then don't give. Find an organization that you are familiar with or that is reputable if you want to make a contribution.

Don't give cash to individuals who appear to be in need of personal charity. Refer them to local assistance resources.

Be sure to promptly report any suspicious persons, vehicles or activities to your local law enforcement.

### Giving gifts

Giving somebody else a gift can be one of your greatest joys. But there are a few

things you should keep in mind to ensure joy is had by all...

When selecting a gift for an infant, be sure it is age appropriate.



Avoid toys with small parts that could be broken off and become a choking hazard. A gift for an elderly person should not be too heavy or awkward to handle, especially for persons with arthritis. Choose books with large type for anyone with vision impairment.

### Giving to yourself

As bah humbug as that may sound, it's important to give yourself a break during the most stressful time of the year. Make sure you take time out for yourself. Enjoy your favorite hobby and spend some time relaxing.

### Giving for us

No matter how hectic the holidays might seem, take time to remember and thank the valiant men and women in the armed forces who are giving for us; giving their time and ultimately their lives to ensure our freedom. Our freedom to live and our freedom to give.



## “Are You Okay?”

### Reassurance Program for Homebound Elderly

“Are you okay?” is a free program offered through East Clark County S.A.L.T. that provides daily checks on homebound seniors through a computer-based telephone calling system.

Participants are generally senior citizens who reside in Clark County, who live alone or who have specific physical or medical needs.

For more information or to sign up for this program, contact Officer Tim Dickerson of the Camas Police Department at 834-4151.

**Sheriff Garry Lucas and the Staff of Clark County Sheriff's Office invite you to attend the 12th annual Holiday Pancake Breakfast on December 9th from 7:00 to 10:00 a.m. in the Sheriff's Office Lower Lobby: 707 W. 13th St. Vancouver, WA 98660**

**Enjoy pancakes, ham, juice, gourmet coffee and spiced cider. There will be seasonal music and a surprise guest for the young at heart!**

**\*Donations will be gratefully accepted on behalf of Santa's Posse.**

# Senior Loses \$4,814 in Canadian Fraud Scheme

A 79 year old Clark County citizen has fallen victim to a scam originating from Canada.

On 9/24/04, the senior received a phone call from a man posing as an attorney working with the FBI. He told the victim that a fraud suspect had been captured in Canada and she was listed as a victim. The caller told the victim that she had around \$160,000 coming to her from the recovered funds.

She was then instructed to wire \$1,500 to an individual in

Westmount, Canada, which she did. Then a second request came for her to send an additional \$1,600 to pay for the Canadian taxes on the funds, so three days later she withdrew money from a credit card and wired it to Canada. Then the victim received a third call indicating the insurance on the funds would cost \$1,450. The victim wired the additional amount.

Over a period of 9 days, the victim sent \$4,550 plus the \$264 in fees for the wires,

totaling \$4,814.

Fortunately, an employee of the victim's bank became suspicious of the transactions and contacted the Sheriff's Office. No more money has been sent and the victim now realizes that the FBI and attorneys would not have her send money.

If you receive a call like this,  
please do not send any money.  
Call your local law enforcement  
to report any suspicious calls.



Are you puzzled?

**Unscramble each of the clue phrases. Then copy the letters in the numbered cells to other cells with the same number to find out what the key word is.**

\*All of these phrases were contained in just one fraud report. These are just a few key words that should alert you to potential fraud.

DSNE XAT OYNEK

MALLS EFE



EPKE TISH RELTET A CERSET

WARDA EYNTR

RYEUO A WNRENI

SEXT NO HTE NUSFD

Key word

1	2	3	4	5

Answer key: send tax money; small fee; keep this letter a secret; award entry; you're a winner; taxes on the funds

**SENIORS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT TOGETHER**

Clark County Sheriff's Office  
P.O. Box 410  
Vancouver, WA 98666

FIRST CLASS MAIL  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
VANCOUVER, WA  
Permit No. 132

**Return Service Requested**

## **Holiday Ornament Exchange and Potluck**

**December 20, 2004**  
**11:00 a.m.**  
**(Joint meeting)**

**Location:**  
**Camas Police Dept.**  
**Community Mtg. room**  
**2100 NE 3rd Ave.**  
**Camas, WA**

What does a handmade ornament and your favorite dish have in common? They are all you need to have a fun time at the annual S.A.L.T. ornament exchange and potluck!

Come see old friends, make some new ones and enjoy some good food. Bring your

favorite appetizer, snack food or dessert (easy on the jello) and a homemade ornament to exchange.

Meetings are free and open to all seniors. If you haven't attended a S.A.L.T. meeting yet, make this your first one!



For an alternative format, contact the Clark County ADA Compliance Office.  
**V** (360) 397-2025; **TTY** (360) 397-2445; **E-mail** ADA@clark.wa.gov